

Marlene H Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW; Room TW-B204  
Washington, DC 20544

Received & Inspected

DEC 08 2014

FCC Mail Room

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11-1-14

Dear, Secretary Dortch

My name is Kenneth West I am a inmate in the Texas Department of Corrections. This letter is a public comment for WC Docket Number 12-375

Secretary Dortch I have been incarcerated for 16 years and phone calls are my primary means of communicating with my family. Yet I am often limited to which family members I can call due to the exorbitant inter-state per minute cost, as well as the multiple fees the phone companies charge both inmates and our families. It's well documented that most inmates in state prison, myself included come from low economic backgrounds. Nevertheless we are still American citizens therefore it not only appears unreasonable, but it also goes against everything this country is supposed to stand for when our state and Federal governments allow these unscrupulous companies to prey on inmates and our families, simply because we're a voiceless, vulnerable, despised segment of the population.

My 17 year old daughter has a cell phone from Walmart in which she pays \$49.00 a month for unlimited minutes including text and data. However in here at 26 cent a minute that same \$49.00 will barely get me 200 minutes of talk time. Why is the FCC allowing these multi-billion dollar companies to take advantage of inmates and our families?

Therefore I respectfully ask that the FCC will please do something about the price gouging that prisoners and our families are being subjected to.

Thank your for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Mr. Kenneth West*

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